



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**March 19, 2012**

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

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A regular meeting of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education was held on Monday, March 19, 2012, at the University of Rhode Island, Coastal Institute, Narragansett, Rhode Island. Chair Lorne Adrain declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

**Present:** Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

**Absent:** George Caruolo and Joseph White

**1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

On a motion duly made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Eva-Marie Mancuso it was

**VOTED:** That the Board of Governors for Higher Education move Item No. 7, New Business, to the end of the meeting agenda and accept the revised agenda for the meeting of March 19, 2012 in total with that one move.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

On a motion duly made by Thomas Rockett and seconded by Tessa Constant it was

**VOTED:** THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the minutes of the January 23, 2012 meeting.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

On a motion duly made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Antonio Barajas it was

**VOTED:**

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the minutes of the February 23, 2012 meeting.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

**3. COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**4. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Adrain thanked President Dooley and the URI Community for hosting tonight's meeting. He welcomed and also thanked Steve D'Hondt, the Interim Dean for the Graduate School of Oceanography, for welcoming the Board to his home on the bay.

Dean D'Hondt welcomed everyone to the University's Bay Campus and encouraged everyone to view the University's ship, the *Endeavor*. The *Endeavor* is one of the most popular ships in the national research fleet and was recently appraised by the International Science Foundation as the best maintained in its class. At the other end of the Campus, the University will be installing a meteorological station to monitor wind in this area in the hope that the University can provide long term records and improve wind energy throughout southern New England.

In closing, Chair Adrain thanked all of the Board's Committees for their good and hard work and for the support of the Office of Higher Education and the colleges. He acknowledged the great deal of collaboration from the Governor's Office as well as the House and the Senate. Chair Adrain added that he is very encouraged by the collaboration of all parties.

## 5. OPEN FORUM

Four individuals signed up to address the Board. Chair Adrain reminded those individuals who signed up to speak that their comments should be limited to no more than five minutes per speaker.

Mr. Peter Nightingale, a URI Professor, member of Occupy URI and *The Raging Grannies*. Mr. Nightingale distributed to the Board literature which reflects the funding of higher education in general, particularly URI. Over the last 30 years, the funding level of the University decayed from about 50% to less than 10% right now. This trend cannot be reconciled with the Rhode Island Constitution. Professor Nightingale recited portions of Section I of Article 12 of the Rhode Island Constitution:

“It shall be the duty of the General Assembly to promote public schools and public libraries and to adopt all means to secure to the people of Rhode Island the advantages and opportunities of education and of library services.”

The legislature “shall not divert said money or funds from the aforesaid uses ... for any purpose, under any pretense whatsoever.”

Title XVI [of the Rhode Island General Laws] adds, “the purpose of continuing and maintaining the University of Rhode Island ... in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the pursuit and the professions of life...”

He indicated that none of this has happened.

Professor Nightingale distributed a separate graph showing what happened to students' long-term debt from 1999 through 2011. Money has been taken away from the students and it is being diverted into the pockets of the rich and the one percent of the wealthy who contribute nothing to education.

(Chair Adrain indicated that Professor Nightingale had exceeded his five minutes, however, the professor continued speaking.) He feels the Board has presided over a decades long unconstitutional decline of funding of higher education in Rhode Island and has accomplished nothing. The Board has become a tool in the hands of the one percent.

Professor Nightingale and members of *The Raging Grannies* in the audience then also sang “Bail Out the Students” sending their message that college students need bailouts more than Wall Street, as well as two other songs. Chair Adrain asked the group to please understand the time limits and stop singing so that the other individuals who had signed up to speak could address the Board.

Dannielle DeRocco, a native Rhode Islander and URI graduate student. Ms. DeRocco stated that she is certified to teach Social Studies in the State of Rhode Island though she has been unable to find a job in her field since graduating in 2009. She asked the Board to consider fairness. Since deciding to invest in her education she has watched funding for public education being sharply reduced while she has watched tuition go up year after year, with a 9.5% increase for this upcoming year. Her only avenue to continue to better herself, set a good example and

to hopefully open alternative employment opportunities is to take out more student loan debt to make up the difference. This is not the American dream that she was promised, this is not the lesson that she plans to teach her children. She asked that the Board understand that these increases place an undue burden on all who seek an education while taxes for the wealthiest of Rhode Islander's go untouched and remain flat. Ms. DeRocco would like to see the Board freeze tuition increases and help students renegotiate their student loans so they can get on top of their underwater investment in themselves. We cannot continue down this road of shifting this ever inflating bubble of student loan debt onto the shoulders of our future and onto the shoulders of our future Rhode Islanders.

Steven Forleo, an English Professor at CCRI, shares the frustration of not only his colleagues but of students on a daily basis. Professor Forleo presented the Board with a petition, one of several thousand signatures that Mr. Forleo and other English Department colleagues at CCRI are obtaining. This first installment includes approximately 800 signatures. With these petitions, he is looking toward getting some form of action, a very interesting but non-violent way of doing things to make people pay attention. Professor Forleo, along with his colleagues, feel that this is the very first step we can take to bring attention to skyrocketing costs of attending college. (A copy of this petition is attached to these minutes.)

Lastly, Professor Forleo stated that the College's newspaper, The Unfiltered Lens, has lost a few of its issues over the last few days. Being the advisor for The Unfiltered Lens, it is a very difficult position to be in. As an employee for the College and advocate for student rights, I have to find a balancing act to do. Mr. Forleo read into the record an email sent by President Di Pasquale on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012:

"Recently it has been brought to my attention that hundreds of copies of the student newspaper, The Unfiltered Lens, have been disappearing from the Knight Campus in Warwick. Behavior of this type at a public institution of higher learning, where expressions of free thought and differing opinions are encouraged, will not be tolerated.

The college allows materials, such as the student newspaper, to be placed in our buildings and expects that those materials will be treated with respect. Readers may not always agree with all of the opinions expressed but the one area that we will always agree on is the protected right to express them.

This behavior represents a chargeable offense and the college will take full disciplinary action should this continue. Please respect the rights of others and all college materials."

Mr. Forleo noted that this email speaks to the integrity, class and professionalism of the man. He is proud and privileged to have Mr. Di Pasquale as his president and more privileged to have him as his friend.

Lynn Derbashire, a Professor at the University for the past 25 years feels compelled to share with the Board two emails she recently received from two of her students. The first read, "Dr. Derbashire, I don't know how I can ask this of you, but I have no other choice. Could you

possibly co-sign a loan for me so I can continue my education? I can't find any other way to do it." That was heartbreaking, but then she received another email from a young woman who said: "Dr. Derbashire, my two girls and I are homeless. I have to find a way to finish my degree so I can get a job and get them a home. How can I do this?"

It is our responsibility to educate the young people of Rhode Island, not only for their benefit, but for the benefit of the State of Rhode Island and its people. At the very least we need to find a way to stop increasing tuition and hopefully get greater state support so that these students can become taxpaying citizens of Rhode Island.

At this time, Professor Scott Malloy, a Full Professor at the Labor Research Center requested he be allowed to speak although he recognized that he had not signed up to speak during open form.

The Chair also explained that the Board's process and procedure for individuals who wish to address the Board in the Open Forum portion of the meeting require a prior written request, and a sign-up sheet is provided before board meetings for this purpose.

Chair Adrain indicated that he and the Board were listening to all comments. The mission of the Board of Governors for Higher Education is providing increasing levels of access and affordability and effectiveness of our system not only for the people of Rhode Island but for the long term interests of the State of Rhode Island. This entire Board and everyone in the system take this mission very seriously and continue to work hard to advance the same ideas that were expressed in the public comment. We do not have an overnight solution, but we recognize the problem, and we are working as hard as we can to develop strategies for addressing it. Chair Adrain invited everyone to continue to sign up for the Public Forum for future meetings and to join the Board in the effort to find solutions.

## **6. REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER**

Commissioner Di Pasquale stated that the affordability and accessibility issue is up front as we begin our budget deliberations. We have begun our budget process and met with the Senate Finance Committee and will be meeting with the House Finance Committee next to present our cases for higher education and its importance. One of the very strong messages that we have been conveying is "please, please, please do not cut the budget for higher education this year." As higher education gets cut, the only tool we have had in the past is to raise tuition in order to offset those cuts and continue to provide a quality education.

There also is a very strong Commission in the House, in which Representative Ferri and his team are studying the whole issue of affordability and accessibility. They have been meeting for a very long time, and gathering a lot of information. We all think this will be very helpful in the long run as we deliberate how to hold the tuition line and still provide the quality education that we have all come to expect from our three public institutions. We are looking forward to the Commission's report.

One of the big items being proposed by the Governor and the Department of Administration is the merger of RIHEAA (Rhode Island Higher Education Assistance Authority) with the RIOHE (Rhode Island Office of Higher Education). We believe that it would provide

more efficient organization for both, and provide the funds for higher education and the Office of Higher Education to provide many of the agenda items about which the Board has been talking.

Commissioner Di Pasquale announced that a new electronic evaluation system is being developed in partnership with URI, CCRI and RIC. It is an extremely important element that will be implemented to assist Rhode Island students with the task of transferring credits between and among post-secondary institutions.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

Item 7, New Business, was moved to the end of the agenda, after Item 12.

## **8. BOG COMMITTEE REPORTS and RELATED CONSENT AGENDA**

### **a. Academic and Student Affairs**

Governor Walsh stated that he wished the Board had the pleasure of hearing from Professor Malloy as well as the other public commentators. He feels that the absence of his name on the speaker's list should not have precluded him from sharing in public comment.

#### **1. Approval of Proposal RIBGHE Student Complaint Procedure**

Governor Walsh stated the Board is being asked to approve a motion considered by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee at its February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the issuance of a formal student complaint procedure. The US Department of Education published final rules, on October 29, 2010, regarding program integrity. States are now required to provide a process for students to file complaints relating to programs offered by post-secondary education institutions authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended. The specific types of complaints covered by these regulations are allegations of consumer protection violations, allegations regarding violation of state licensure for post-secondary institutions, and allegations regarding the quality of education.

The Board of Governors for Higher Education's General Counsel, Ron Cavallaro, drew up a proposed student complaint procedure for review by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Following a robust discussion, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the document.

On a motion made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

### **VOTED:**

**(Item 8a1)**      THAT      the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the proposed Student Complaint Procedure; and

THAT the Board request that the institutions provide notification to their student bodies regarding the Board's adoption of this procedure.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

2. Approval of a Proposal from Middlebury College to offer a five-week intensive summer English Program to be hosted on the Campus of Salve Regina University

Also at the February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee vetted a proposal from Middlebury College, in conjunction with the Monterey Institute of International Studies, a graduate school of Middlebury College, to offer intensive college-level English language courses during a five week summer term offered in 2012, 2013 and 2014, that will be located at Salve Regina for international students who are either already studying at an American post-secondary institution or who are ready to matriculate into a post-secondary institution in the United States. This program would offer no degree. The program is designed to help international students increase their language proficiency in American English and to provide a working knowledge of American post secondary education culture. The cost of the five week program including tuition, room and board is \$4,950. Through the assistance of Skype technology, the ASAC committee interviewed Dr. Renee Jourdenais, Dean of the Graduate School of Translation, Interpretation and Language Education and Dr. Patricia Szasz, the Director of Intensive English Programs at the Monterey Institute for International Studies. The Vice Presidents for academic affairs at RIC, URI and CCRI, each stated that there is a real need for such language instruction in the state and that they would welcome the program. The ASAC voted unanimously to approve the English language program through Middlebury College.

On a motion made by Joan Abrams and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 8a2)** THAT the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education grant approval for Middlebury College to offer a five-week intensive summer English program in 2012, 2013, and 2014 for current and matriculating international college students, to be located on the grounds of Salve Regina University.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

**b. Facilities, Finance and Management**

Chair Tikoian presented items 8b1 through 8b4 to the board for consideration.

1. Approval of the Mid-Year Review for Fiscal 2012 Higher Education Budgets and Tables of Organization.

The Facilities, Finance and Management Committee reviews the mid-term financial statements and the results of those financial statements are transmitted to the General Assembly via the supplemental budget.

As a result of the mid-term results of operations, Rhode Island College has decreased its full-time student equivalencies by 175 pupils, reducing its revenues by \$900,000. The Committee was assured by RIC's financial advisors that they would balance their budget with the decrease.

CCRI had an addition of 82 pupils which increased revenue by approximately \$2.2 million. The College experienced a substantial shift in the mix of full time and part-time students thereby generating additional revenue as the part time students pay tuition on a credit hour basis that is premium to the full time rates.

The University had a decrease of 485 pupils: 153 in-state, 244 out-of-state and 88 graduate students. This has resulted in a decrease of \$8.9 million in tuition and fee revenue. The mid-term results indicated that this would be a loss of roughly \$2.4 million. It was explained to the Finance Committee that the decrease in revenue which resulted in a loss would be absorbed by the fund balance of that particular entity.

On a motion made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Jane Sherman it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 8b1)**      THAT      the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the mid-year budget adjustments for Fiscal Year 2012 as presented.

Vote:      11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:



YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

2. Approval of an Increase in the Athletic Fees at Rhode Island College Effective in FY 2013.

The Facilities, Finance & Management Committee reviewed a request by Rhode Island College to increase athletic fees for Rhode Island College. The increase is from \$40 to \$80 annually. This was a recommendation by the College with the support of the administration and athletic department.

On a motion made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Thomas Rockett it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 8b2)** THAT the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the increase in Athletic Fees at Rhode Island College from \$40 per year to \$80 per year for FY 2013.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

3. Approval of a Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Telecommunications Antenna Site License Agreement.

The University requests an approval for a telecommunications antenna site license agreement with Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless. The license term is five years with the option to extend the term for three successive five-year periods on the same terms and conditions as set forth in the attached agreement. The annual fee to be received is \$35,300 with an increase in license renewal periods. The University has two other antenna license agreements currently. The revenue generated by these agreements has totaled approximately \$650,000 since 1999.

On a motion made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Thomas Rockett it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 8b3)**      THAT            the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the proposed communications site license agreement to provide Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless access to the University water tower and adjacent land in order to erect and maintain a digital communications antenna and forward it to the State Properties Committee for approval.

Vote:            11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS:           Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS:           0

4.      Approval of a Utility Easement for a Modified Electrical Connection to Marine Logistics Support Facility at the University's Narragansett Bay Campus.

The University of Rhode Island requests permission to enter into an agreement with National Grid to grant an easement to cover the installation of electrical connection for a Marine Logistics' facility which will be constructed

On a motion made by Michael Tikoian and seconded by Amy Beretta it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 8b4)**      THAT            the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education approve the request for a Utility Easement for the Electrical Connection to the Marine Logistics Support Facility at the University's Narragansett Bay Campus.

And

THAT            the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education authorize the chairman to execute the completed easement document from National Grid subject to the review of General Counsel and the State Properties Committee.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS: 0

**c. Government Relations**

Chair Mancuso stated that the Committee has been very busy. Testimony has been given before the House and the Senate on budget issues, the issue of arming campus police, and issues regarding the merger of RIHEAA into the Board of Governors.

The Committee is studying the issue of arming the campus police and has taken testimony from Robert Drapeau, the URI Director of Public Safety, Major Stephen Baker, Campus Police at URI, Lt. Michael Chalek from the URI Campus Police in Providence, and Lt. Charles Wilson from Rhode Island College. In March of 2010 the prior Board released a report on this particular issue. We are continuing that forward prospectively, and not as a response to any of the campuses or any issue. We are looking at requiring certified training in the use of handguns and also the actual funding for the initial capital as well as the annual cost. We are fortunate on Government Relations to have the cross-over on Facilities, Finance & Management Committee so that we are looking at the funding aspects as well as the policy issues before the Board. In addition, Anne Marie Coleman has indicated that there are several different bargaining units that are involved, and that going forward, this may introduce a personnel issue as well.

Chair Mancuso will continue to meet with various individuals and will bring all information back before the Board for a vote.

In response to a request by Governor Beretta that the Board be provided with copies of the minutes from the public testimony before the Committee as well as summaries of any conversations on this issue, Chair Mancuso indicated that all material will be made available to the full Board.

**d. Personnel**

Chair White did not present a report.

**e. Quality, Continuous Improvement and Innovation**

Chair Beretta explained that due to the lack of a quorum the Committee held a discussion only at their last meeting.

**f. Student Advisory**

Chair Constant stated that the Student Advisory Committee has yet to meet for the semester and therefore she did not have a report.

**9. ADDITIONAL CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Adrain indicated that there is only one item on today's consent agenda:

**a. Approval of Recommendations from the Personnel Review Committee**

Anne Marie Coleman indicated that this item is a reclassification request from the University of Rhode Island. The ITIS department is seeking to combine and consolidate all of the operational type issues, the wiring, phones, and the laying of the internet wires, under the same supervisor. The original documentation stated that functions are being moved from one individual to another. However, that first individual has since retired from the institution so all of the assignments in the case have been completed and we are seeking a one pay grade increase from a pay grade 15 to a pay grade 16.

On a motion made by Joan Abrams and seconded by Thomas Rockett it was

**VOTED:**

**(Item 9a)**      THAT      the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the Personnel Review Committee's recommendations as follows:

At the University of Rhode Island:

- Reclassify manager, MTS/Facilities & Telecommunications Operations (Grade 15) (\$68,299 -- \$86,911) to Associate Director, MTS/Network Infrastructure Projects, Operations & Services (Grade 16) (\$64,713 - \$139,372).

Vote:      11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS:      Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh

NAYS:      0

b. Approval of the Awarding of Honorary Degrees by the University of Rhode Island.

President Dooley referred to the letters submitted by the University representing the work of the Committee and asks the Board for approval to award honorary degrees to the individuals named therein. President Dooley feels that individuals that have been selected are outstanding individuals and looks forward to the Board's approval. Both Dr. Dooley and Chair Adrain reminded the Board that all names are confidential until they are released by the University.

On a motion made by Tessa Constant and seconded by Amy Beretta it was

**VOTED:**

<b>(Item 9b)</b>	THAT	the Board of Governors for Higher Education approves the Awarding of an honorary degree to the individual selected by the University of Rhode Island:
	Vote:	11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh
	NAYS:	0

**10. PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

**a. University of Rhode Island**

President Dooley congratulated the staff at the University for their excellent work this evening, especially those at the Graduate School of Oceanography. President Dooley invited everyone to attend the celebration of the opening of the Office of Experiential Learning and Community Engagement at URI. This is the culmination of a process that began with the faculty working hard in an academic planning process with the provost and other academic officers to think about what a 21<sup>st</sup> Century education at the University of Rhode Island should be for its students, and how best to prepare students for its challenges as well as the opportunities that they will face in a globalized economy and in an increasingly globalized society.

**b. Rhode Island College**

President Carriuolo informed the Board that the College has developed a new program minor in coaching that will be open to students from any major. The minor emphasizes safety and will give students an opportunity to learn how to evaluate players and give appropriate feedback to a group or individual. The minor consists of six 3-credit courses that span topics of prevention and care of athletic injuries; personal conditioning; foundations of movement; and coaching science, skills, tactics, and applications.

As for an enrollment update, on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Undergraduate Admissions had 4,256 applications (this includes new freshmen, transfers, and readmits). Of these applicants, 2,283 were admitted. This does not reflect the final two weeks leading to the March 15 deadline for freshman applications. As of March 2, we were only 97 applications away from the fall 2012 freshman application goal. Among those admitted, the ten most popular majors were listed as Nursing (463), Psychology (136), Biology (135), Elementary Education (133), Justice Studies (83), Radiologic Technology (74), Communication (70), Management (63), Accounting (61), and Social Work (53).

President Carriuolo invited everyone to the original musical presentation "*Phoenix From The Ashes, Seven Songs for Soprano and Piano*", a Holocaust remembrance concert to premiere at the College on March 21<sup>st</sup>. On March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, the College will host the Belfer First Step Workshop, which is designed to prepare pre-service secondary teachers to integrate the Holocaust into their lesson plans. RIC is one of six institutions of higher education in the nation selected by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to present these workshops.

**c. Community College of Rhode Island**

President DiPasquale reported that the spring enrollment was 17,178, the second largest spring enrollment in the College's history. It is important to also note that the College has been providing book loans, emergency loans, and additional scholarships. The record enrollment continues to show what is happening with the Rhode Island economic structure that more and more students are looking to the Community College to begin their post secondary education.

Recently, the entire congressional delegation along with the Governor and many businesses and corporations attended an Energy Utility Technology press event where our congressional delegation provided a \$750,000 grant, and National Grid partnered with the College in providing \$10,000 in scholarships as well as \$100,000 in in-kind services, to provide an outstanding program for nine young people that will be graduating in the first ever Energy Utility Technology certificate program in Rhode Island.

The College will participate in the first-ever R.I. Mission of Mercy event – a free dental clinic that expects to served as many as 600 uninsured or underinsured Rhode Islanders. The College has offered the use of its newly renovated dental hygiene and dental assisting labs, a donation that event organizers from the R.I. Oral Health Foundation estimate is a saving of \$40,000 or more that they would have had to spend to rent a facility.

President Di Pasquale also announced that the men's basketball team will compete in the 2012 NJCAA Division II Men's Basketball National Tournament. The team is ranked No. 3 in the country and will play Metropolitan Community College of Kansas City, Missouri.

Lastly, President Di Pasquale announced that a freshman distance runner, Bobby Allen, a Cranston resident, placed first in both the mile and the 3,000-meter run at the National Junior College Athletic Association Indoor Track and Field Championship last month.

## **11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Adrain indicated that he would entertain a motion to enter into executive session to discuss an update on pending litigation pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2) an update on collective bargaining pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2); and an update on collective bargaining and ratification of four collective bargaining agreements pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

On a motion duly made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by Antonio Barajas it was

<b>VOTED:</b>	That	the Board of Governors for Higher Education convene in executive session pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2) for the reasons set forth above.
	Vote:	11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh
	NAYS:	0

After a short break, the Board convened in Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

All non-Board members in the audience were excused with the exception of Ray M. Di Pasquale, Commissioner and President of the Community College of Rhode Island; University of Rhode Island President David M. Dooley; Rhode Island College President Nancy Carriuolo; Ronald Cavallaro, General Counsel for the Board; Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations; Susan LaPanne, Associate Commissioner for Finance & Management; Michael Trainor, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, and Deborah Grossman-Garber, Associate Commissioner for Academic Planning and Policy.

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:30 p.m.

Chair Adrain stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

On a motion duly made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by Michael Tikoian, it was:

VOTED:	That	the Board of Governors for Higher Education continue the matters discussed in executive session at a special meeting of the Board to be scheduled.
	Vote	11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh
	NAYS:	0

On a motion duly made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by Michael Tikoian it was

<b>VOTED:</b>	THAT	the Board of Governors for Higher Education seal the minutes of the executive session held this evening.
	Vote:	11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
	YEAS:	Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta, Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso, Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and John Walsh
	NAYS:	0

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

On a motion duly made by Jane Sherman and seconded by Michael Tikoian it was

<b>VOTED:</b>	THAT	the Board of Governors for Higher Education continue Item 7, New Business to a later date.
	Vote:	11 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:



YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta,  
Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso,  
Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and  
John Walsh

NAYS: 0

**13. NEXT MEETINGS**

Currently, the next meeting dates are:

Monday, May 7, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island,  
Board Room 4090, Warwick

Monday, June 25, 2012, 5:30 p.m. at Rhode Island College, Alger Hall, Providence

**14. ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion duly made by Eva-Marie Mancuso and seconded by Michael Tikoian it was

**VOTED:**

THAT the Board of Governors for Higher Education adjourn.

Vote: 11 members voted in the affirmative, and 0 members  
voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Lorne Adrain, Joan Abrams, Antonio Barajas, Amy Beretta,  
Tessa Constant, William Maaia, Eva-Marie Mancuso,  
Thomas Rockett, Jane Sherman, Michael Tikoian, and  
John Walsh

NAYS: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Jane Sherman, Secretary***